



Docket No.: 826.1517

#171E
RWB
3-17-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Minoru KURIKI, et al.

Serial No. 09/189,410

Group Art Unit: 2157

Confirmation No. 5479

Filed: November 10, 1998

Examiner: A. Caldwell

For: MESSAGE PROCESSING DEVICE, MESSAGE MANAGEMENT METHOD AND
STORAGE MEDIUM FOR STORING MESSAGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

MAR 13 2003

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed February 11, 2003, and having a period for response set to expire on March 11, 2003.

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND the claims in accordance with the following:

16. (FOUR TIMES AMENDED) A message processing apparatus for processing a plurality of interpersonal messages transmitted from a plurality of terminal apparatuses, the message processing apparatus comprising:

a preparation unit preparing a receiver state list containing names of a plurality of receivers each having received an interpersonal message jointly addressed to the receivers, where the interpersonal message relates to a business activity, and where each name is associated with a piece of information indicating a state of the respective receiver, each piece of information being based on a response by each of the receivers of the interpersonal message, where the responses capable of being made in an arbitrary order with respect to each other; and

a message management unit enabling display of the interpersonal message in mutual association with the receiver state list, where the displaying is enabled on a terminal apparatus

Et
Sub
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